Fifth Pay Commission

266. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the Fifth Pay Commissions's report in full or in parts;

(b) the main recommendations of the Commission regarding interim relief and merger of deamess allowance with pay for payment of gratuity;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision in this regard; if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether regarding merger of D.A. the benefit had been restricted to payment of gratuity only; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard and steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (e) The Fifth Central Pay Commission has submitted an Interim Report making following recommendation:

(i) Grant of Interim Relief at the rate of 10% of the basic pay, subject to minimum of Rs.100 per month to all employees;

(ii) grant of Interim Relief to pensioners at the rate of Rs. 50 per month plus 10% of the basic pension/ family pension, subject to a minimum of Rs.50 per month;

(iii) dearncss allowance linked to the average AICPT 1201.66 may be treated .as deamess pay for reckoning emoluments for the purpose of retirement gratuity and death gratuity alone and the ceiling on gratuity be enhanced from Rs.l lakhs to Rs.2.5 lakhs; and

(iv) These recommendations may be given effect from 1st April, 1995.

The Government have accepted and implemented these recommendations.

Revamping of Air India

267. SHRI SARDA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of Air India is far from satisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to revamp Air India; and

(d) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The profits of Air India in 1994-95 declined compared to that of 1993-94, due to:—

(i) impact of depreciation and interest of the B747—400 aircraft acquired during 1993-94;

(ii) impact of cancellation of flights in the wake of plague outbreak;

(iii) increased maintenance cost of the fleet;

(c) and (d) Air India is taking steps to improve its product, image and on-time performance to attract more passengers and increase the revenue; the number of services will also be increased depending upon additional entitlements and traffic demand.

Investments Made By UTI

268. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds invested by the Unit Trust of India in securities, shares, debentures and other operations during 1994-95;

(b) the total amount raised by UTI from public under different schemes of UTI during that year; and

(c) the earnings of the UTI during 1994-95 under different schemes, unit-wise?